

Message Text

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ACTION CU-05

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, GR

SUBJECT: INTERNATIONAL VISITORS PROGRAM FOR FY-75

REF: STATE 185652; BURGOON-DITOMMASO TELCON 9/3

1. POST CONCURS WITH DEPARTMENT ASSESSMENT PARA 1 REFTEL THAT PROPORTION OF TOTAL ALLOCATION FOR GREECE GOING TO IV PROGRAM SHOULD BE INCREASED AND WE SUGGEST DOLS 10,000 INCREMENT. DECISION BASED ON FORTHCOMING REESTABLISHMENT OF DEMOCRATIC GOVERNMENT HERE. TIMING PROPITIOUS TO EXPAND CONTACTS WITH NEW INTELLECTUAL, ACADEMIC, MEDIA AND GOVERNMENT AND TO HELP THEM DEVELOP ACCURATE CONCEPTIONS ABOUT AMERICA'S POLITICAL, SOCIAL AND EDUCATIONAL INSTITUTIONS THROUGH FIRST-HAND EXPERIENCE IN THE U.S. THE RECENT UPSURGE OF ANTI-AMERICAN SENTIMENT IN GREECE GIVES ADDED IMPETUS TO PROMOTE THIS TYPE OF PERSONAL CROSS-CULTURAL EXCHANGE FOR GREEK LEADERS AND SPECIALISTS.

2. POST FULLY UNDERSTANDS THAT DOLS 10,000 INCREASE FOR IV PROGRAM WILL COME AT EXPENSE ACADEMIC; NEVERTHELESS, WE FEEL THAT EXTRAORDINARY CONDITIONS JUSTIFY SUCH ACTION. HOWEVER, WE ARE MOST CONCERNED ABOUT ADMINISTRATIVE OVERSIGHT WHICH RESULTED IN DOLS 20,000 CUT FROM ACADEMIC ALLOCATION. IN VIEW OUR DESIRE TO EXPAND IV PROGRAM AND AT SAME TIME AVOID CURTAILING FULBRIGHT PROJECTS, CAN WE POSSIBLY REGAIN SOME OF THE LOST ACADEMIC FUNDS?

3. DEPARTMENT'S EARLY RESPONSE TO ABOVE (RECOMMENDATIONS)

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WOULD BE APPRECAITED.

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